



California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

PUC ACTS TO STOP UNLICENSED LIMOUSINE COMPANY BLACK DIAMOND TRANSPORTATION

On May 14, 2004, the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC), in its ongoing efforts to clamp down on unlicensed limousine companies, filed for a Temporary Restraining Order, Preliminary Injunction, and Action For Recovery Of Civil Penalties, against Demetrius Ray Middleton, doing business as Black Diamond Transportation.

On May 26, 2004, the Superior Court in Contra Costa County granted the PUC a Temporary Restraining Order against Black Diamond Transportation. Prior to An Order To Show Cause Hearing to be held on June 18, 2004, both parties reached a settlement. Terms of the settlement provided for a Final Judgment and Permanent Injunction ordered by the Court. Demetrius Middleton is restrained and enjoined from conducting any operations as a Charter Party Carrier without the required permit issued by the Commission and the requisite insurance on file. Demetrius Middleton was ordered to pay \$1,959 in PUC investigation costs and a \$ 3,000 fine.

The PUC Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD) received a series of citations issued by San Francisco Police Department's Airport Bureau to Demetrius Middleton, for violations of airport rules (unauthorized solicitation and no valid waybills) and operating without a charter-party permit at SFO. Demetrius Middleton was issued a permit to operate as a carrier on April 2, 2001, however, the permit was revoked on May 14, 2002, for failure to demonstrate proof of adequate insurance coverage. Demetrius Middleton is currently applying for a charter-party permit.